March 19, 1976

the wording of the resolution we adopted a year ago, could be considered as an outright adoption of the idea which I think would be premature in the absence of much of the information that ought to be available to the Legislature. What my amendment did. specifically pointed out the need for firm figures in the way of costs and operating costs. The kind of financial committment that other states would be willing to make. Most importantly the requirement that the Legislature, or someone that the Legislature would designate from the Legislature, would have direct input into the collection of this information so that the next session, or the future session which has to make the financial decision will be able to do that knowing with full confidence the long-term financial impact that we might have.

I would move the adoption of the amendment on that basis.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, I have an answer... I don't have an answer, I have a question for Senator Warner. Senator Warner, it's my understanding the next time the Commission meets that Nebraska will need to take a pretty firm position. Do you think that your amendment to the resolution does that?

SENATOR WARNER: Pardon? Does that take a firm position?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes. It's my understanding now that if Nebraska is ... does not look with favor upon the idea of establishing the school in Nebraska, that other states like Montana are interested. Do we want it in Nebraska? If it's going to be a certainty I wonder if we shouldn't perhaps see that this amendment to the resolution takes a little firmer position then yours does. I'm just not sure that the way you drafted it says that we are interested, only that we want to keep on studying it.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Kremer, that would be my position. I'm not aware whether or not Nebraska is to be made ... or that the Legislature is expected to be making a firm committment at this point with the great multitude of unanswered questions. But if that is true, as you have indicated, that we are required to make that committment at this time, even though some of this information apparently is contested at best, if not total, and if the body feels that they wish to do that then I would suggest the resolution ought to be rejected. The one thing I think would be ... or that is the amendment.

I would agree that the worst thing to do would be not to pass anything. That would be a flat out turn down. It's my own concern...

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Warner, I think I'm in full agreement. I think we're both looking at things the same way. But I'm wondering if we go far enough in your resolution to say to the Commission that's going to meet within the next several months, as I understand it, that we are interested in a regional type of school. Maybe it does. I don't know. I'm wondering if we shouldn't lay this thing over until Monday and then some of us get together with the Ag. Committee and see what we come up with.